

Louisiana - Net Metering

01/07/2008

Incentive Type: Net Metering Rules

Eligible Renewable/Other Technologies: Photovoltaics, Wind, Biomass, Hydroelectric, Geothermal Electric, Fuel Cells using Renewable Fuels, Microturbines

Applicable Sectors: Commercial, Residential, Agricultural

Limit on System Size: 25 kW for residential systems; 100 kW for commercial and agricultural systems

Limit on Overall Enrollment: No limit specified

Treatment of Net Excess: Credited to customer's next bill at utility's retail rate; carried over indefinitely

Utilities Involved: All utilities

Interconnection Standards for Net Metering? Yes

Authority 1: [La. R.S. 51:3061 et seq.](#)

Date Enacted: 6/27/2003

Effective Date: 10/1/2003

Authority 2: [LA PSC Order, Docket No. R-27558](#)

Date Enacted: 11/30/2005

Effective Date: 11/30/2005

Summary:

In November 2005, the Louisiana Public Service Commission (PSC) issued rules for net metering and the interconnection of net-metered systems. Louisiana's rules, based largely on those in place in Arkansas, require publicly-owned utilities and rural electric cooperatives to offer net metering to customers with systems that generate electricity using solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal or biomass resources. (Fuel cells and microturbines that generate electricity entirely derived from renewable resources are eligible.) The rules apply to residential facilities with a maximum capacity of 25 kilowatts (kW) and commercial systems with a maximum capacity of 100 kW.

Utilities must provide customer-generators with a meter capable of measuring the flow of electricity in both directions. Utilities must pay for the cost of the meter itself, but customer-generators must pay a one-time charge to cover the installation cost of the meter. Net excess generation (NEG) is credited to the customer's next bill indefinitely. For the final month in which the customer takes service from the utility, the utility will pay the customer for the balance of any credit at the utility's avoided-cost rate.

Customer-generators seeking to net meter must notify the utility at least 90 days prior to the date of interconnection. Utilities must use a PSC-approved standard interconnection agreement for net-metered facilities. Customers must pay for "interconnection costs," which are defined in the PSC's rules.*

By the end of each calendar year, utilities must file with the PSC a report listing all existing net-metered systems and their capacities, and, where applicable, the inverter rating for each facility. Regarding renewable-energy credits (RECs), the PSC will review the feasibility of a REC-trading program as part of the commission's ongoing renewable portfolio standard (RPS) rulemaking process.

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